

### **REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Claims 28, 44, 48, and 59 are amended. Claims 1-27, 32, 37-43, 46, 50, and 54-58 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 28-31, 33-36, 44-45, 47-49, 51-53, and 59-69 are pending in this application.

### **Objections to the Specification**

In the June 7, 2004 Office Action, the specification was objected to because the reference numeral "430" on page 31, line 15 should be "440". The paragraph on page 31, lines 15-25 has been changed to correct this reference numeral. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

### **Allowable Subject Matter**

Claims 32 and 50 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 32 depends from claim 28, and claim 28 has been amended to incorporate the elements of claim 32. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 28, as well as claims 29-31 and 33-36 that depend from claim 28, are in condition for allowance. Claim 50 depends from claim 48, and claim 48 has been amended to incorporate the elements of claim 50. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 48, as well as claims 49 and 51-53 that depend from claim 48, are in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 44, claim 44 has been amended to incorporate elements analogous to those of claim 50 that were indicated in the June 7, 2004

Office Action as being the basis for claim 50 being allowable. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 44, as well as claims 45 and 47 that depend from claim 44, are in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 59, claim 59 has been amended to incorporate elements analogous to those of claim 32 that were indicated in the June 7, 2004 Office Action as being the basis for claim 32 being allowable. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 59, as well as claims 60-69 that depend from claim 59, are in condition for allowance.

**35 U.S.C. § 102 and 103**

As part of this response, the claims rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103 have either been canceled or amended (or had their parent independent claims amended) to include elements indicated to be allowable, as discussed above. These cancellations and amendments have been made in order to expedite issuance of the allowable claims. These cancellations and amendments have not been made to overcome, and should not be interpreted as having been made to overcome, the rejections of these claims under 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103. Applicant reserves the right to pursue these claims in one or more continuation applications.

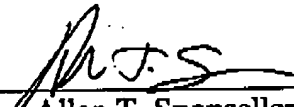
Applicant respectfully requests that the §102 and §103 rejections be withdrawn.

**Conclusion**

Claims 28-31, 33-36, 44-45, 47-49, 51-53, and 59-69 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and issuance of the subject application. Should any matter in this case remain unresolved, the undersigned attorney respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve any such outstanding matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 8/8/04

By:   
Allan T. Sponseller  
Reg. No. 38,318  
(509) 324-9256